

Under miscellaneous disorders, several recently reported diseases such as hemolytic-anemia syndrome, Alport's syndrome, and primary renal tubular disorders are described clearly and adequately. However, only five short paragraphs are devoted to discussion of the relatively more common renal tumors, e.g., Wilm's. Neuroblastoma is covered in one sentence. Again, these are primarily surgical problems. A final chapter brings the reader up to date on problems of dialysis and kidney transplantation.

When a test is limited to basic information, a few omissions may occur. The author does not evaluate the results of treatment of chronic nephritis with cytotoxic drugs. The incidence of hypertension in uncomplicated nephrosis is not indicated. In spite of an illustration of acute glomerulonephritis following impetigo, the author recommends only local therapy for the skin. The state dosage of erythromycin for treatment of streptocociasis is lower than the manufacturer's recommendation. The theoretical academician will object to the lack of detailed discussion. However, the hurried practitioner will appreciate the frequent "cook-book" style of recommendations for treatment and can consult the adequate bibliography for more information if desired.

Because the style is so clear and direct, the 350 pages of the text can be read in four evenings by any busy physician. Residents in pediatrics and urology will find the concise directions invaluable in writing hospital orders.

Pediatricians, generalists and urologists who serve children should keep this book at a ready place on their library shelf and will find themselves referring to it almost daily.

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SURGERY OF THE CHEST—Second Edition—With the Collaboration of 48 Authorities—Edited by John H. Gibbon, Jr., M.D., formerly Samuel D. Gross Professor of Surgery and Chairman of the Department of Surgery, The Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia; David C. Sabiston, Jr., M.D., Professor and Chairman, Department of Surgery, Duke University School of Medicine, Durham, North Carolina; and Frank C. Spencer, M.D., George David Stewart Professor of Surgery and Chairman of the Department of Surgery, New York University School of Medicine, New York, New York. W. B. Saunders Company, West Washington Square, Philadelphia, Pa. (19105). 954 pages, \$32.50.

Since the publication of the first edition of this book, edited by John H. Gibbon, Jr., M.D., in 1962, the expansion of knowledge in the field of thoracic surgery has been extremely rapid. The second edition, in which Dr. Gibbon is assisted by David C. Sabiston, Jr., M.D., and Frank C. Spencer, M.D., faithfully records the changes which have occurred in this field in the past decade. The number of chapters has been increased from 32 to 42 and the number of authors from 36 to 51, but the number of pages has changed only slightly (from 902 to 954). As a result, this textbook is successful in being complete but fails to be comprehensive. The limited number of pages allowed to each subject results in many chapters being merely descriptive rather than critical.

The first 11 chapters cover the general management of thoracic surgical patients. The introductory chapter on Cardiorespiratory Dynamics by Myron B. Laver and W. G. Austen reflects new knowledge of the pathophysiologic effects of cardiopulmonary surgery, but it assumes considerable basic knowledge on the part of the reader. Many readers may prefer the original discussion of this subject by Gibbon in the first edition. An excellent chapter by William E. Adams on Preoperative Evaluation of Pul-

monary Function is retained. The chapter on Postoperative Management by Gibbon and Richard T. Padula does not adequately reflect improvements in this area made in the last few years. The treatment of postoperative low cardiac output is not included. The most noteworthy addition to this section of the book is the chapter by Spencer and John F. Daly on Tracheostomy and Assisted Ventilation.

The section of the book which covers pleuropulmonary surgery has undergone very little change. The coverage given to carcinoma of the lung, perhaps the most common problem handled by thoracic surgeons, continues to be noticeably short. The solitary pulmonary nodule is covered in one-half page. Although a very good chapter by Herbert C. Maier on the pleura contains a description of the technique of thoracentesis, the technique of closed thoracotomy is not covered anywhere in the book.

The section on cardiovascular diseases has been entirely revised. By and large the chapters are short and tend to be descriptive, but several are quite good and contain extensive bibliographies. Excellent critical treatment of their subjects is achieved by William M. Chardack on pacemakers, John W. Kirklin on ventricular septal defect, Clarence Dennis on assisted circulation, Sabiston on pulmonary embolism and transplantation of the heart by Eugene Dong and Norman Shumway. Notably deficient is the chapter by Donald B. Effler and William C. Sheldon on myocardial revascularization, which reflects only the opinions of the authors and contains only seven references to work other than their own in this extremely active and important area.

This textbook will continue to serve as an adequate starting point for study by students, interns and residents. Because of the limited space allotted to the various topics, however, it will probably be less useful to the practicing surgeon.

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THE CLINICAL APPROACH TO THE PATIENT—William L. Morgan, Jr., M.D., Professor of Medicine, the University of Rochester, School of Medicine and Dentistry; George L. Engel, M.D., Professor of Psychiatry and Professor of Medicine, the University of Rochester, School of Medicine and Dentistry. Illustrated by Evelyn Lipman Engel. W. B. Saunders Company, West Washington Square, Philadelphia, Pa. (19105), 1969. 314 pages, \$9.75.

The book was designed to prepare the medical student for his first clinical encounter and is the product of experiences with an innovative general clerkship at the University of Rochester. It describes the doctor-patient relationship, the roles of patient and student on the teaching ward and the steps used to acquire, analyze and report clinical data. Noteworthy chapters deal with the methods involved in establishing a relationship with the patient and eliciting the history of his illness, and with the proper recording of clinical data. Technical aspects of the physical examination have been set aside but its flow and sequence are carefully described.

Thorough instruction in bedside techniques and in the process of diagnosis becomes increasingly important in the education of tomorrow's physicians as the scope of laboratory medicine and use of technical assistants in patient care expand. This concise and skillfully written book may replace hours of preceptorship for today's sophisticated student undertaking a condensed curriculum and abbreviated clerkships.

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